

# JEWISH OBSERVER AND MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

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**MISSION ACCOMPLISHED**

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## JEWISH OBSERVER &amp; MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

EDITOR: JON KIMCHE

## EDITORIAL:

100 Salisbury Square House, Salisbury Square, London, E.C.4  
FLEET STREET 3349ADVERTISEMENTS, ACCOUNTS AND CIRCULATION  
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STATESMANSHIP OR  
PARTY POLITICS ?

Mr. Ben-Gurion returned home this week with some noteworthy achievements to his credit. The two outstanding ones are of course the understanding about future policy with President Kennedy and the comforting and reassuring undertaking uttered by President de Gaulle. These two, together with his conversations in Ottawa and London, make up a considerable gain for Israel's international prestige. More concretely, they have made possible a more confident and dramatic forward move towards a Middle Eastern settlement than has yet been attempted.

For without that feeling of assurance, of confidence in future American, French, Canadian and British policy in this field, and of fundamental military and political strength, Mr. Ben-Gurion would not have been able to underwrite the important political initiative which is now under way in an attempt to settle the Palestine Arab refugee problem (*it is fully reported on page 5*). It was not an easy step to take for Mr. Ben-Gurion; for he has resisted all these years every attempt either to raise false refugee hopes about returning to Palestine or to seek cheap popularity abroad.

\* \* \*

There was always—and still is—the matter of Israel's security which could be gravely affected by indiscriminate repatriation of the Arab refugees. Because of this, the Israel Government had insisted, ever since the Lausanne Conference of 1949, that a genuine peace settlement must precede any solution of the refugee problem which involved some repatriation of refugees to Israel.

It would be as well, therefore, not to underrate the significance of Mr. Ben-Gurion's "understanding" with President Kennedy on this score. For it means that the refugee question can now be negotiated as a separate entity along the lines laid down by the President: some repatriation, some compensation and some resettlement. But the real change is in the reversal of the priorities: the discussions can begin now without waiting for an overall settlement.

But there is more to this. What President Kennedy has done is to issue a challenge to the statesmanship of the Israeli and Arab leaders. And the first man to undergo the test was Mr. Ben-Gurion. It is something of the measure of the man that he understood at once what was at stake and was prepared to adjust his own thinking—and Israel's policy—accordingly. But he could not have done this in a vacuum. He could not have done it unless he felt that Israel was militarily strong enough, and morally and politically so healthy, that he could take this calculated risk in order to break the refugee deadlock. And he did take it.

This, however, is only the beginning. It is now for the Arab leaders and for the United Nations to undergo the same test of statesmanship. Will they have the same political courage as Mr. Ben-Gurion to proceed along the lines suggested by President Kennedy, or will they seek shelter by making impossible conditions? It is known in Washington that President Nasser is not altogether averse to the idea, but claims that Arab opinion would not support him. There is only one answer to this. Nasser, like Ben-Gurion, will have to fight for this support and, if he is in earnest, educate his Arab public opinion; but, if he does not feel strong enough, he may prefer to ruin Kennedy's initiative. UNRWA also has an important role in instructing the refugees about the issues at stake. If it simply sits back and claims neutrality and inactivity, as it has done in the past, it will have failed in its most important task yet.

\* \* \*

On the Israeli side, too, the story does not end with Ben-Gurion's understanding with Kennedy. He now returns to the routine of an election campaign, and Israeli democracy will be severely tested in the manner in which it responds to Ben-Gurion's mission. It is to be expected that Herut and the communists, and possibly Ahdut Avoda, will resist any settlement on the lines proposed by the President. But what will the Liberals say; what will Mapam say? Will they now introduce the new "tone" for which they have been clamouring into the discussion of Israel's relations with the Arab world, and acknowledge Mr. Ben-Gurion's achievement in this field and undertake to support him? Or will they continue their partisan campaign against the Israeli Premier, as they seem to be doing with disturbing irresponsibility over the non-existent sale of arms to Angola (*as our correspondent reports on page 16*).

For Mr. Ben-Gurion has returned not only with an opportunity to transform the Middle East situation, but also with a test of the maturity of Israel's democracy and especially of her political leaders.

# EICHMANN

## PROSECUTION RESTS ITS CASE BUT WHAT OF THE LARGER GUILT?

*from our own correspondent*

### Jerusalem :

For two agonising months, we have been held in the grip of a horror so vast and so terrible that now, in the last week of the prosecution's case against Adolf Eichmann, the mere shooting of a man for a triviality causes not one ripple in the Jerusalem court room. Numb, we watch almost impassively as yet another witness sobs his way through his testimony, the court waiting in respectful silence until he can recover sufficiently to continue.

There can be no climax to horror, but this week we moved to the final climactic stage: the mass imposition of the final solution in the camps of Maideneck, Sobibor, Treblinka and Auschwitz where thousands were dispatched in a matter of minutes.

What perhaps stunned the mind even more than the fact of murder on such a vast scale were the fiendish "refinements" introduced by the killers. At Treblinka, the victims were led to their death along an alley which the Germans had named "Himmelstrasse"—Heaven Street. The street was lined by S.S. men with whips

and dogs, to help the laggards on their way. At the end of Heaven Street lay the gas chambers, disguised as massive bathrooms.

**Ghost trains of Treblinka :** The railway siding at Treblinka was camouflaged to lull the victims into a false sense of security. Geraniums flowered along the platforms. A station clock told them the time. Signs pointed the direction to nonexistent trains for Bialystock and Wolkowiski and fictitious timetables gave the hour of "departure".

But many were never even to see them. Freight cars pulled into the sidings at Treblinka (and the other concentration camps) with hundreds of children already suffocated on the journey.

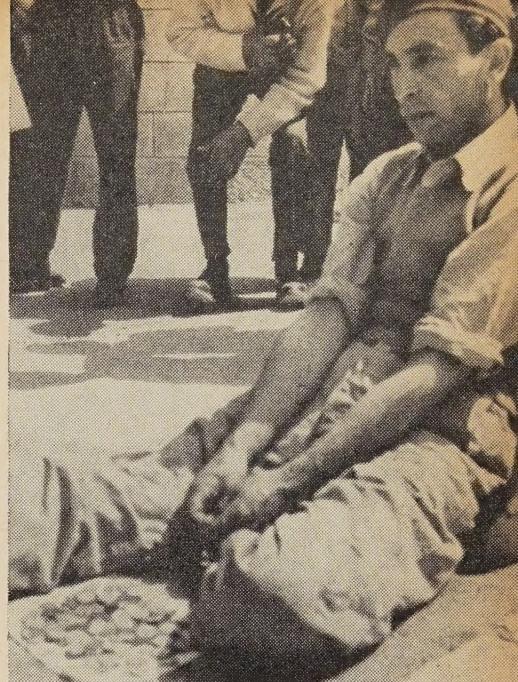
And even those destined to die were not allowed to go to their deaths without humiliation. Despite orders that killings should be carried out with the utmost speed, the S.S. men introduced "games" in which human beings were reduced to performing the antics of animals. Prisoners were made to walk for days on all fours, barking like dogs and biting fellow prisoners.

**Humiliation before Death :** For to the S.S. death alone was not enough. Humiliation had to come first. The bodies of the victims had to be forced not only to give up life, but also their spirit. But now and again, there was the instance in which the dignity of one man overcame the bestiality of his killers.

As in the case related by one witness of the elderly, orthodox Jew sentenced to death by hanging in a camp near Warsaw for a trivial offence. At the moment of execution, the rope snapped. The Germans decided that the Jews themselves must kill him. The prisoners were given heavy sticks and drawn up in two lines through which the old man was to run as his fellow-Jews beat him.

**Atonement :** As he ran down the line, a rain of blows falling across his back, he said: "I take it with love. I shall be the atonement for the Jewish people". When, at last, he fell down exhausted he whispered: "I don't feel any pain. I took it with love . . . say Kaddish for me".

That men cannot live through such horror and emerge unmarked was shockingly demonstrated on Wednesday when



SILENT WITNESS

Legless Camp victim outside the court

a man previously known by the pseudonym K. Zetnik (a Yiddish term for a concentration camp inmate) was revealed in his true identity as Yehiel Dinur. As K. Zetnik he has written a host of books on his experiences in Auschwitz, including the world-famous *The House of Dolls*.

Dinur had started an introduction to his evidence on Auschwitz when the Attorney General gently interrupted him and suggested that he might answer some questions. Dinur did not seem to hear either Hausner or Judge Landau who also intervened. He went on talking as if in a trance and then, suddenly, gave a scream and collapsed into unconsciousness.

**Excuse worn thin :** But through it all, and through the eight weeks of evidence that have gone before, one man has sat seemingly remote from the entire proceedings. Apart from consulting files or scribbling notes on his pad, Adolf Eichmann has behaved as if the proceedings in the Jerusalem court concerned events and persons with whom he had no connection whatsoever.

But, while Eichmann has been the principal accused, there have been hundreds of thousands more in the dock with him. If the evidence presented by the prosecution had established one thing, it is that vast segments of the German people were involved in the annihilation of the Jewish people. The excuse that "We did not know" has worn very thin indeed.

They were not one hundred or one thousand who manned the concentration camps, the death trains that rattled across Europe, the poison gas factories or the S.S. They were many hundreds of thousands, even millions. At some point or



VON THADDEN

Witness for Eichmann—  
or fellow culprit?



**"FRIEND AND ALLY"**  
De Gaulle greets Ben-Gurion  
at the Elysee Palace

another, even if it were only to witness the humiliation of a Jew in the street or the destruction of his business, hardly one German family can have escaped contact with the planned destruction of European Jewry.

**Where are they?** There were those who played the "death games," and the factory owners who exploited the labour from nearby concentration camps. There were the doctors who took part in medical "experiments" and the physiologists who decided upon racial purity. Around and across every section of German life, the evidence in the Eichmann trial has drawn a cross of guilt.

Eichmann is on trial but where, one kept on asking, where were the German guards who pushed crying children into the already packed gas chambers and shot those who couldn't squeeze in because there was no more room? Where were the hundreds of guards who accompanied the dying Jews on their death march in Hungary? Where were those thousands who laughed and rejoiced as helpless men, women and children went to their terrible end?

The prosecution is now in its final stage and will end on Friday. Next week there is to be a recess while the defence prepares the presentation of its evidence. Defence counsel Dr. Servatius has announced that Eichmann will be called as the first witness and that the case for the defence will be concluded sometime in July. With the vast amount of documentary evidence to be read, it is not expected that the court will be in a position to announce its verdict until the autumn.

## BEN-GURION

### MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

#### DE GAULLE'S ASSURANCES AND THE NEW REFUGEE POLICY

During his fourteen days abroad\* Israel's Premier Ben-Gurion consulted with Presidents Kennedy and de Gaulle, with U.N. Secretary-General Hammarskjold, and with Prime Ministers Diefenbaker, Macmillan and Debre; held talks with Lester Pearson, Adlai Stevenson, Governor Rockefeller, Lord Home, Nahum Goldmann, with three former French Premiers, Yigal Allon and other representative figures, addressed Jewish leaders in Philadelphia and in New York, bought twenty-two books in Oxford, visited the Oxford University Press and the Paris Left Bank bookshops, and had two meaningful encounters with Sir Winston Churchill in London and former President Truman in New York.

It was typical Ben-Gurionite diplomacy, a mixture of careful preparation spiced with opportunist improvisation; a combination of calculated diplomacy and off-the-cuff politics.

**Significant pointers:** The meetings with Diefenbaker and Kennedy had been prepared over many months. They were supposed to have taken place in April, but the Cuban troubles intervened and led to the postponement. For Ben-Gurion it was now, or putting off the journey until the late autumn when the U.N. Assembly would have met. He decided on "now".

And though, in the event, the talks ranged widely, it was this coming Assembly that figured most prominently in the talks, for it concerned not only Israel but the whole future of the United Nations as we know it. It was against this background that the conversations in all four capitals took place. And though they were largely informal and exploratory, a number of significant pointers emerged—especially from the talks with the two Presidents, Kennedy and de Gaulle.

**De Gaulle without inhibition:** Ben-Gurion arrived in Paris on Monday evening, his last port of call before returning home on Thursday. He met there his Foreign Minister, Mrs. Golda Meir and his Deputy-Defence Minister,

Shimon Peres. They had little time to consult for so great was the demand from prominent Frenchmen for meetings with the Israeli Premier that Ambassador Eytan had to give an informal collective dinner to meet the most important of the requests.

Thus, later on Monday, Ben-Gurion with Mrs. Meir and Peres met and talked to members of de Gaulle's Cabinet, with three former Prime Ministers, the Chief-of-Staff and other Defence Chiefs, with Professor Berin, the head of France's Atomic Energy Commission and many other leading members of France's public life.

But the principal encounter took place on Tuesday morning. First, de Gaulle and Ben-Gurion talked privately for over an hour—and kept their conversation largely to themselves. But immediately afterwards, at a formal luncheon given by the President at the Elysee Palace, de Gaulle spoke in language so markedly uninhibited that its meaning could not be mistaken.

**Israel "our friend and ally":** Addressing himself to Mr. and Mrs. Ben-Gurion, to Mrs. Meir and to Shimon Peres, he spoke of the pleasure it gave him to meet them again and he continued:

**"In this world in which we live, it is useful that men of goodwill should meet on common ground. This is what has happened to us once again today. It is true in all aspects and in particular when we speak of Israel of whose worthiness and grandeur we know well. We also know of Israel's difficulties and preoccupations. We want to assure you of our solidarity, and to greet Israel—our friend and ally."**

It was not the kind of praise or the kind of commitment—"friend and ally"; de Gaulle had said—which de Gaulle uttered lightly. It came after his talks with Ben-Gurion and its meaning was not lost on any of those—Frenchmen and Israelis—who heard the President of France intone it. And responding, Ben-Gurion gave expression to the feeling of admiration and gratitude which he and his people felt for France and for de Gaulle. And that evening there were more opportunities for translating goodwill into practice at a dinner party given for Ben-Gurion by Premier Debre.

\* Mr. Ben-Gurion left Israel on May 23, arrived in Ottawa on May 24, in New York on May 28, in London on June 2, in Paris on June 5 and returned to Israel on June 8.

**The refugee plan:** In New York, apart from the personal understanding and appreciation that was established between President and Premier, the most important outcome of the meeting was the new emphasis on the Arab refugee problem.

It marked in many ways the most significant shift in the approach to this question which has taken place since 1949, and it followed on the letter which President Kennedy has addressed to the Arab rulers. In this he gave strong expression to his feeling that something must be done, that matters could not simply be left as they were.

He proposed to the Arab rulers a three-pronged approach towards a settlement. Israel would undertake to take back a number of refugees; a further number would receive monetary compensation from Israel, and a third part would be resettled by the Arab countries in Arab countries.

**An Israeli concession:** The details of the settlement, Kennedy explained, would have to be negotiated between the Arab countries and Israel under the aegis of the United Nations. The President put the same proposition to the Israeli Premier.

Ben-Gurion explained that Israel had always favoured this kind of solution as the only realistic one possible, but because of the persistent declarations of hostile intent by the Arab leaders, they had made it conditional on a previously negotiated peace settlement. And this the Arab countries had invariably rejected. Since 1949, the Arab leaders had insisted that the refugee question must be agreed before there could be a general settlement. This deadlock has remained unbroken for the past twelve years.

But now, in view of the President's initiative, Ben-Gurion explained that Israel would be prepared to waive her insistence on a previously negotiated peace settlement—provided the solution to be negotiated would be based on the three parts of the Kennedy proposition.



CORDIAL WITH KENNEDY  
Personal understanding—and a new emphasis on the refugees

**Nasser: Israelis too alarmist?** The Israeli Premier warned, however, that he had all along been opposed to raising false hopes among the refugees, and he was anxious that there should be none now. The two parts of the scheme, Kennedy's and Ben-Gurion's, were linked together; there could be no question of an Israeli declaration that the refugees would "in principle" be entitled to return. Repatriation would have to go hand-in-hand with compensation and resettlement.

The discussion on Israel's security naturally centred to a considerable extent on the evaluation of the menace to Israel of the re-armed United Arab Republic. The Americans were not inclined to go as far as the Israelis. They did not rate the United Arab Republic as strong enough yet to be able to menace Israel.

Israel's posture of strength was, however, recognised as being a deterrent

which kept away not only attacks on the Israelis but also on other Arab countries. There was full understanding for Israel's concern for efficient and modern armed forces which would be able to master any combination of Arab countries.

**A Soviet formula:** In this connection, there took place another significant exchange of views. It was agreed by the two men that no good purpose would be served by restating the Tripartite Declaration. Kennedy and Ben-Gurion were convinced that, to be effective, any such declaration must have the Soviet Union as one of the signatories.

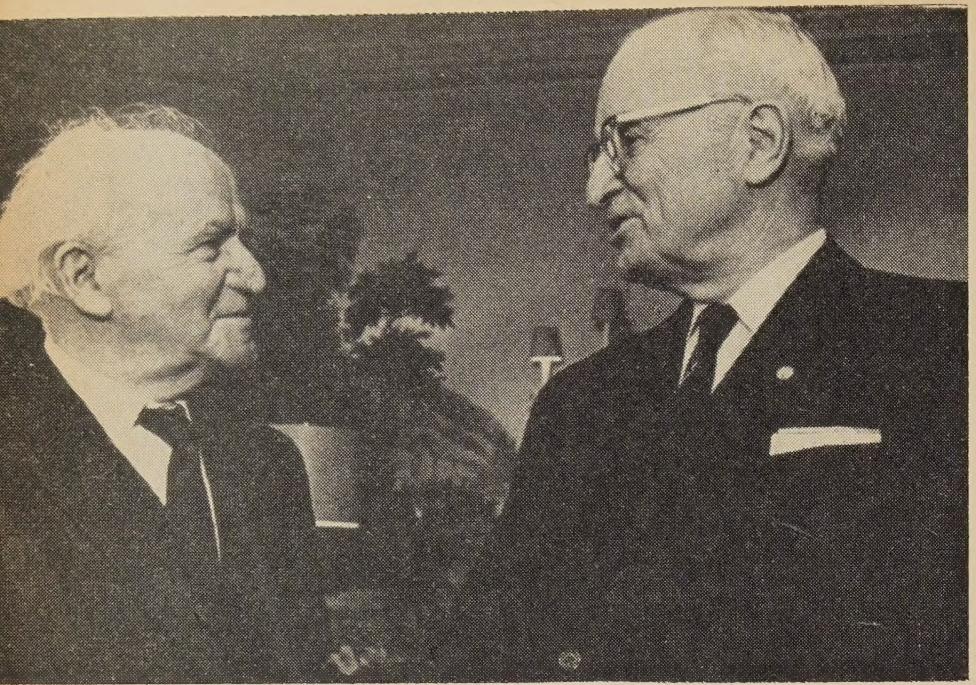
The time may come, sooner than many people think, when it might be possible to get Soviet adherence to a declaration guaranteeing the *status quo* as far as the frontiers of the Middle East are concerned—the kind of thing which was included in the Anglo-Soviet Communiqué of April 26, 1956, which was drafted by Kruschev after his meeting with Eden during the visit to London.

This stated that the two countries would "support the United Nations in an initiative to secure a peaceful settlement on a mutually acceptable basis of the dispute between the Arab States and Israel." Both Kennedy and Ben-Gurion thought that this was along the right lines.

**"Jewish Chronicle" report—"sheerest rubbish":** In this connection, a spokesman for Mr. Ben-Gurion described as "sheerest rubbish" the report from Richard Yaffe in last week's *Jewish*



AT EASE WITH DIEFENBAKER  
Not an atom of doubt



**AT ONE WITH TRUMAN**  
Appreciation and an invitation—one of the emotional highlights

*Chronicle.* This claimed that Ben-Gurion had asked Kennedy "to place Israel under the protection of the American Sixth Fleet," and that Kennedy had avoided making any commitment.

The report is so wide off the mark, the spokesman added, that even if Kennedy had offered the protection of the American Fleet, Ben-Gurion would have turned it down. For as things are, there can be only one effective form of defence for Israel: her own strength.

Israel's nuclear programme was also

discussed—especially in Canada with Premier Diefenbaker. Ben-Gurion's explanation of Israel's peaceful intentions, and especially the long-term need for having her own nuclear-trained scientists was understood and accepted by the Canadians who have much the same problem of long-range nuclear planning.

**U.N.'s new balance of power:** The meeting with Hammarskjold, for once, was not unduly concerned with Arab-Israel difficulties, but ranged more fundamentally over the deeper organisational

crisis with which the United Nations are faced. While much depends on Kruschev's unpredictable attitude at the next Assembly, this is not everything. The new Afro-Asian nations have already changed the balance of power—and of voting—in the Assembly and the implications for Hammarskjold, and Israel, may be very considerable.

In London, Mr. Ben-Gurion paid a courtesy visit on Lord Home at the Foreign Office where the enthusiasm for the visitor was not quite as marked as later in the day when the Israeli Premier renewed his association with Premier Macmillan. They had a brief but workmanlike exchange which left the Israelis "largely satisfied".

It was pointed out that Ben-Gurion's alleged remark to the press that he was "more or less" satisfied after his talk with Macmillan was a mistranslation of the colloquial Hebrew phrase which he had used.

Ben-Gurion had not come to ask for anything except, perhaps, understanding for their position, and for recognition of the latent threat of Cairo's Nasserism especially in east and west Africa. There seemed to be no marked difference of opinions on either count.

**Truman:** But the two emotional highlights of Ben-Gurion's pilgrimage to the west were his meetings with two elder statesmen to whom he went to express the gratitude of his people for what they had done for them in their darkest hours.

In New York, in a moving encounter he told former President Truman how much he had contributed to the securing of a free and independent Jewish nation in Israel, and that his part in the establishment of Israel will never be forgotten by its people. On their behalf he invited the former President to come to Israel.

**Churchill:** And in London, the encounter with Sir Winston Churchill assumed the dimension of emotional drama. For many years, both men have greatly admired and respected each other's great achievements and often they have wanted to meet.

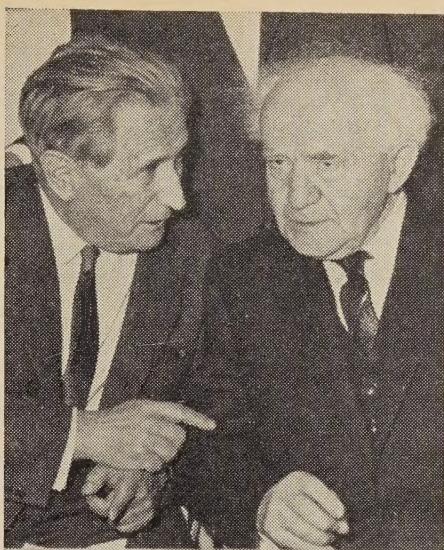
An now at last they did, in a moment charged with history. Both Churchill and Ben-Gurion were clearly aware of it, what it meant for them both. For Ben-Gurion could at last discharge in person a debt which Israel has owed to Sir Winston, and for Churchill it was to experience one more achievement in the flesh—the greetings and the tribute from Israel's first Prime Minister.



**FAREWELL FROM HAMMARSKJOLD**  
Implications are considerable



A TIP FOR ROCKEFELLER  
New York's Governor gets advice



A POINT FROM GOLDMANN  
*An agreement to differ*

## UNCERTAINTY IN CAIRO SOFT-PEDAL ON KENNEDY DISCUSSIONS

In contrast with its reaction on the occasion of Ben-Gurion's conversations with Eisenhower in Washington last year, Cairo has displayed a strange reticence on the topic of the Israeli Premier's New York meeting with President Kennedy. Instead, the Egyptian press has concentrated on the British part of Ben-Gurion's journey.

It was left to Damascus to express something of the fears that lay at the heart of Cairo's near silence on the Ben-Gurion-Kennedy talks. Misquoting the Israeli Premier as saying that agreement had been reached on the topics of the Arab refugees and Soviet arms supplies, the Syrian newspaper *Sawt-al-Arab* commented:

"The solutions agreed upon by Ben-Gurion and Kennedy will be absolutely pointless as long as the Arabs do not take part in formulating them... It is amazing that Ben-Gurion and Kennedy should allow themselves discussion of a subject which only concerns the Arabs, namely the subject of arming the Arab armies."

**"Domestic affair"**: For more than six years, the Damascus newspaper continued, "the Arab states have been importing arms from any country whose conditions are acceptable and free from political strings. This is the right of every independent state in the world. By what right does America, for example, interfere in such a domestic affair of the Arab states?"

severe jolt in its Middle Eastern bases, which are threatened with disappearance in the few areas where they remain to oppress the inhabitants of our Arab homeland."

**"Exposed" in Africa**: In one guarded comment on the talks with Kennedy, *al Akhbar* observed that the official statement issued in New York was expressed in the ambiguous terms dictated by etiquette, but that America's present "difficulties" allowed one to assume that Kennedy could not have listened with pleasure to Ben-Gurion's demands. He must have realised, added *al Akhbar*, that Israel, now "exposed" in Africa and Asia, and almost isolated, had a greatly diminished value to the U.S.A.

Cairo radio, like the press, was more openly exercised by the Israel Premier's visit to London. It was no good him trying to revive the 1950 Tripartite Declaration, it warned. The Arabs now ruled the region and the U.A.R., mobilised to defend Arab rights in Palestine, would never abandon its efforts to restore those rights.

Elsewhere in the Arab world, almost all was silence on the Ben-Gurion trip. The most that could be interpreted as comment were the threats from Amman and Baghdad of an early solution to the problem of Palestine, but these seemed more in the nature of an attempt to keep up with Cairo than anything else.



FREEDOM TO PROTEST  
Arab students "welcome" Ben-Gurion to Admiralty House



SMILE FOR LONDON  
Two talks, twenty-two books

## ZIONISTS' AGREE TO DIFFER

### MAIN POINT OF CRITICISM NOT RAISED

#### New York:

Whichever way you are driving, from Manhattan to New York's international airport or in the opposite direction, the big banner strung across the main thoroughfare either welcomes you to New York or speeds you on your way with a huge "Give to United Jewish Appeal."

It was under this banner that Ben-Gurion sped into, and out of, New York. It was under a similar banner at a United Jewish Appeal luncheon in Essex House that he said some nice things about American Jews and the way they have supported and still support Israel.

Then, if only indirectly, he touched on the topic that seems to be continually on his mind—the need for western immigrants. He did not come out with a broadside appeal, just a timely reference to the American peace corps concept and a suggestion that American Jews should create and support a similar sort of peace corps for Israel.

Then he was away with a "L'shana habah b'Yerushalaim" and a wave of his hand to the hundreds of U.J.A. leaders, many of whom had travelled considerable distances to hear him.

**No favourites:** Earlier, in meetings with Zionist leaders, Ben-Gurion had

stuck to his view that he was entitled to have his ideas, that they were entitled to have theirs, but that the thing for a Zionist to do was to get up and go to Zion. After greeting Dr. Goldmann and other Zionist leaders at the headquarters of the Jewish Agency on Park Avenue, Ben-Gurion told the Agency Executive members gathered together that he could not accept the Zionist movement as the only link between Israel and American Jewry.

Israel welcomed close relationships with Jewish communities all over the world but it was obvious that Ben-Gurion had no intention of conceding to the Zionist movement sole responsibility in that area.

From his meeting with the Agency, he



FORMAL AT THE F.O.  
Nothing sought but understanding

went down to attend a session of the President's Conference of national Jewish organisations which—many American Jewish leaders felt—had been slighted by the Blaustein-Ben-Gurion exchange. On this matter, Ben-Gurion said that he would have issued the statement to anyone who wanted it and that in doing what he had done he had not been attempting to name any one group as a spokesman for the Jews of America.

**Visit from Rosenwald:** That he would have given a statement to anyone and that he was willing to see anyone was evidenced by the fact that one of his visitors was Lessing Rosenwald, the founder and former President of the American Council for Judaism. Questioned by some other Jewish leaders as to why he had seen Rosenwald, Ben-Gurion retorted that he was willing to see any Jew who wanted to see him. It was a reply hardly calcu-

lated to mollify American Jewish leaders who do not conceal their concern over Ben-Gurion's attitude towards them, which differs hardly at all from his attitude to non-Zionist Jews.

Rosenwald spent a quarter of an hour with Ben-Gurion and, as he left, said that he had sought the meeting so that he could pay his respects in view of the "kind reception" accorded him on his visit to Israel in 1957. Rosenwald, asked if there were any chances of a change in the Council for Judaism's policy towards Zionism and Israel, said he did not imagine so. Nor did others in the Council who said that they had not been told in advance that Rosenwald had sought the meeting. They said he had told them nothing of the audience with Ben-Gurion.

While the issue of immigration did come up in Ben-Gurion's meetings, observers tended to agree that no American Jewish leader had challenged the Prime Minister on his statement about American Jews. That, in fact, seemed to be the prime issue that no one raised, much to the concern of some Jews who felt that the Prime Minister should have been clearly told that "American Jews are Americans."

**Discordant note:** This one discordant note may have been tied in with another, expressed in some General Zionist circles, that Ben-Gurion's trip, with its meetings with Diefenbaker, Kennedy, Macmillan and de Gaulle, was timed and designed more as a skilful piece of electioneering than anything else. Time, and developments, will tell.



TIME TO BE OFF  
A brief, but workmanlike exchange

# IN THE NEWS

## HAUSNER'S BRITISH DOCUMENTS

THE CRITICAL COMMENT in last Friday's JEWISH OBSERVER, on the manner in which the prosecution in the Eichmann trial presented a number of documents relating to the British Government's actions in August 1944, has created something of a stir in Jerusalem—to put it mildly. There have been a good many explanations and elaborations since. In London, Arthur Henderson, M.P. has asked the Government for a full dossier on the matter, and in Jerusalem the case for the prosecution against the JEWISH OBSERVER has also, I gather, not gone by default.

Broadly speaking, the prosecution's argument seems to be that they are neither fools nor knaves. They were aware of Churchill's directives on Jewish suffering but they deliberately ignored them because they were not relevant to their case. This was to give the court a complete picture of what happened after Brand's arrival in Istanbul. For the same reason, they had submitted Goldmann's draft for Weizmann's testimony at Nuremberg: it was to explain why there had been no Jewish resistance in Hungary. For such resistance would have had to be organised from outside and this was made impossible by the withdrawal of the British permission to drop the Jewish paratroops in Hungary.

### NOT DIFFICULT ENOUGH?

This is a valid argument, as far as it goes. But it goes nothing like far enough. It ignores the two main lines of our criticism. This was concentrated, in the first place, on Attorney-General Hausner's comment to Judge Halevy that, for his part, he did not think that there were any such technical difficulties as the British had claimed for not bombing the Auschwitz gas chambers. We argued that Hausner had ignored the setting in which the discussions took place, and especially the strained Western-Soviet relations at that time. Let me recall the events of those days. The German attack with flying bombs and rockets had just started. That month there were 10,000 casualties in London and south-east England. Hitler was speaking confidently of the change that would soon come about because of his new weapons. At Peenemuende, atomic and rocket development was reaching a climax. In Normandy, the decisive battles for the breakthrough to



BRAND  
*Mission of hope—or of danger?*

Paris and towards the Rhine had just started and reached a critical phase; some 5,000 allied planes were involved. The Warsaw rising had started and the Russians refused to help. Both the R.A.F. and the Americans flew to Warsaw but were unable to make any decisive impact and lost relatively heavily on the round journey.

### A TRAGIC MOMENT

Now, Hausner may still argue quite legitimately that, despite all this (and there was even more), it should still have been possible for the allies to bomb Auschwitz. That is a matter for investigation. But he cannot claim to pass judgment on this situation and assert that the British and Americans were not facing overwhelming technical difficulties. That is what we described as "injudicious." And, furthermore, from this attitude springs the other one which we questioned: the tendency to talk as if there had been any chance of ever making a deal with Eichmann, or whether he or any of the others really seriously considered such a deal—except as a means to split the alliance. That is the crux of the Budapest tragedy, and so far the prosecution seems to have been inclined to underplay this aspect of the Brand negotiations. Many years ago, Weizmann told me of his talk with Churchill, and how with heavy heart Churchill had brought home to him that this mission of Brand's might endanger the continuity of

the alliance. It was a tragic moment, Weizmann said, "Churchill and I were both aware of it," but there was nothing they could do except to hasten the end of the war, to warn Eichmann and his men and to help the lucky few who got away. But surely that, too, belongs to the overall picture which the prosecution set out to present to the Court?

## THE RABBI BARKS

RABBI SOLOMON SCHONFELD, in a letter to last Tuesday's *Times*, charged that the responsibility for not saving the Jewish remnant in Europe was not that of the allied governments, but of the Zionists who would rather sacrifice Jews than see them go to countries other than Palestine. The Zionists, he said, did nothing to save threatened Jews. It was he and a group of M.P.s who did everything.

But what did this "everything" consist of? They were going to pass a motion in Parliament appealing to the states bordering on enemy-occupied countries to give asylum to Jews. As simple as that. But did the Swiss (or the Turks or the Spaniards) need special appeals from Rabbi Schonfeld? The Swiss were surrounded by the Axis and their resources were limited. The Turks were prepared to allow Jews to enter provided they had visas for Palestine. The Spaniards were erratic, mercenary and unpredictable, but not so many Jews managed to get away to Spain.

But what were the maligned Zionists

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doing? There was an underground mission in Rumania until the last possible moment in 1942, in Bulgaria and in many other places. Some 3,000 Jews were got away from Rumania, others perished because they had no "certificates" for Palestine. It was the Zionists who risked their heads in Nazi Europe while Schonfeld organised petitions in Westminster.

**"LOCK IT UP"**

And as for the official British attitude at the time: was it quite as unblemished as Schonfeld seeks to make out in order to smear the Zionists? Let us consider the evidence of one man who should know. In March 1941, Churchill sent a message to the Colonial Secretary on this matter.

"General Wavell," he wrote, "like most British military officers, is strongly pro-Arab. At the time of the licenses to the shipwrecked illegal immigrants being permitted he sent a telegram not less strong than this, predicting widespread disaster in the Arab world, together with the loss of the Basra-Baghdad-Haifa route. The telegram should be locked up, and also my answer, in which I overruled the General and explained to him the reasons for the Cabinet decision. All went well, and not a dog barked."

That is, not until last Tuesday.

**PRACTICAL ZIONISM**

DESPITE ALL THE ties that have been strengthened and bridges that have been built in speeches stretching back across the years, it remains a regrettable fact that the Zionist feeling of identification with Israel is directed more toward things (mainly buildings) than people. I am not trying to apportion blame. There is certainly much fault to be found on both sides. However, against this background, it is pleasant to discover the odd instance of closer identification on the personal level, such as the journey taken a week ago by thirty-five members of Ilford Zionist Society to Kibbutz Zikim on the Gaza Strip frontier. Ilford "adopted" this settlement two years ago and since then have shown their interest by a number of gifts, including a washing machine. On their recent journey, the Ilford Zionists took with them a consignment of British toys for the children of the settlers, who include nearly 40 former members of British Hashomer Hatzair. Other Zionist societies in this country have gone through the motions of "adopting" Israeli settlements, but none, so far as I know, have shown the same practical interest in their "foster-children" as Ilford. This is a pity. Short of personal settlement, this scheme seems the best prac-

tical way of staking an interest in the development and achievements of Israel.

**LEO KOHN**

THE SUDDEN DEATH, at the age of 67, of Leo Kohn has shocked his many friends and admirers. For he had become something of a one-man Chatham House attached to the Israel Foreign Ministry—and even before the establishment of the State he had occupied much the same undefined position in the Jewish Agency. He served it for many years in London before going to Jerusalem where he established himself as an island of rational sanity amidst the fierce propaganda of the British, the Jews and the Arabs. He wrote editorials for the *Palestine Post*, briefs for the Jewish Agency leaders and influenced many foreign journalists in a far more profound way than could the best of public relations men.

**PHILOSOPHY AND POLITICS**

And in the early days of the State, he used to sit in the garden house of Sharett's Foreign Ministry in Sarona and hold a kind of private court, providing a mixture of philosophy and politics for which hardly no other official had time. And again, he left his mark on his many callers. He also drafted a constitution for Israel together with a meaningful explanatory text, and he continued to watch international affairs and comment on them in the privacy of his garden office. There is much to be said for having an able and understanding official who is not hidebound by office discipline—and nothing could ever discipline Leo Kohn. He had worked with Sharett for many years and he greatly admired him. When Sharett left, Leo Kohn also switched his emphasis, to the more academic life of a Professor in International Law. But his heart remained at the Foreign Ministry and he spent much time on the problem of the Arabs in Israel and of the Arab Refugees. He was the author of the recent Foreign Ministry publication reviewed here two weeks ago and recommended for its frankness and honesty.

He was perhaps the only senior official of his kind whose influence has left its mark on many who are barely aware of it. He was always understanding, but he could also be a fierce opponent—especially in intellectual differences. And he hated brevity—in speech or in writing. If something was worth saying then why cut it short? But at least he had something to say, and what he said through the years will be remembered by all who had the benefit of his wisdom.



WHEN NON-ALIGNERS MEET

An exchange of greetings between the U.A.R. and Yugoslav Foreign Ministers

## DAYS OF STRESS IN CAIRO

### IN THE SHADE OF THE MUSCOVITE TREE

from our special Middle East correspondent, Robert Gee

There is a sense of urgency, almost of feverishness, in the moves made across the international chess board by the U.A.R. in the last few weeks. It is impossible to avoid the feeling that events are being manoeuvred to a very tight schedule by someone in either a gathering state of panic or hard pressed for time, or both.

But, despite the hustle and bustle, and scarcely veiled by it, is a discernible sense of insecurity, the impression that both the President and the men about him fear that, if they do not move ahead quickly, the ground on which they are standing will be cut from under their feet.

Crisis is not the word to properly describe the atmosphere, but there is a hard and metallic smell of trouble in the air. The factors that appear to have led to this state of affairs can be briefly summarised as:

- ¶ Nasser's adamant refusal to admit communists not only to the government but also to public life.
- ¶ The seeming determination of the régime to bring the Palestine issue to a head, to the extent of inducing the other Arab states to join in a direct commitment to war.
- ¶ Growing Soviet pressure for a more co-operative and helpful attitude towards communism and the special

international issues in which it is interested.

¶ Nasser's agitation for a "Third Force" to stand between east and west.

**Shape of the noose :** Relations with the Soviet Union have been deteriorating for weeks, and the recent much-publicised exchanges between the press of the two countries is only a late public manifestation of the private bickering that has been going on. There is now a real sense of alarm about Soviet intentions.

The whole economic development of the U.A.R., and through the U.A.R. of one or two other countries, depends upon continued Soviet assistance. The ability of the U.A.R. armed forces to wage a defensive war, let alone an offensive one, would be destroyed overnight by a Soviet refusal to supply spares and ammunition. For the first time, despite acts of press bravado, Nasser is beginning to recognise the outlines of the noose which he himself shaped.

There was no joy in Cairo at *Pravda's* advice in the form of the proverb: "Do not cut down the tree which gives you shade".

**Arabian tales :** Thus it was that, when the four-day preparatory meeting for a summit conference of the heads of non-aligned states opened in the Oriental Hall at Heliopolis, it looked very much like an attempt on the part of the revolutionary government to take refuge behind other people's backs and not the grand gesture of a nation ready to lead a "Third Force".

Representatives from twenty-two countries, including eleven Foreign Ministers, sat at a horseshoe-shaped table to prepare the date and venue, as well as an impressive agenda, for the heads of the state meeting. They had been arriving in Cairo almost hourly over the weekend, which President Nasser spent in flitting from President Makarios of Cyprus, to Prime Minister Dr. Ali Rashid Shamarke of Somalia and on to some of the participants in the preparatory conference.

(His main concern in his meeting with Makarios seemed to be to secure, if not hostility then, at least, neutrality in the attitude of Cyprus to Israel. Against him were Israel's readiness not only to do business with Cyprus on favourable terms, but also the Israel Government's willingness to provide much needed technical assistance).

Perhaps the citizens of Cairo were impressed by the long list of arrivals. It is hard to tell. More excitement seems to be caused by the return from visits to Mecca and Medina of hundreds and thousands of spiritually uplifted pilgrims.

# LLOYD TRIESTINO

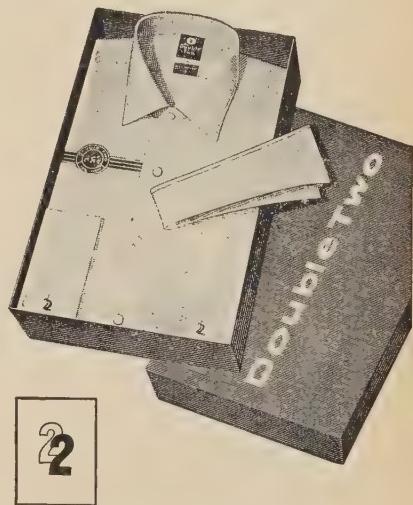
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**Prayer for victory :** His words at a massive gathering on Mount Arafat have fanned a new flame of fanatism, given their setting and the occasion. "We ask God", said the king, "to accept from us and from you our prayers, pilgrimage and worship, to reconcile us and bring about unanimity among Moslems, as well as unity of their ranks. May He unite them!"

"We also ask God to give His protection to the Palestinian refugees arbitrarily turned out of their homes and lands, to return them to their lands and to aid them in driving out wanton Zionist gangs which, through oppression and aggression, drove them out of their homes."

"We also ask God to support with His victory the Algerian fighters, the fighting men in Oman and in the South who are defending the dignity of Arabism and Islam".

**Hussein adjourns :** But Saud, it seemed, was not only addressing the pilgrims. On the previous day he had called in all the Arab ambassadors and reported to them on the text of a letter he had received from President Kennedy. Rumour had it

that Kennedy was sounding Arab opinion on a Palestine settlement and Saud was reported to be "angered" by the American initiative. Whatever other Arabs wished to say in reply, Saud apparently delivered his response in the prayer on Mount Arafat.

Saud's strength, and he knows it, has always been his possession of the Moslem holy places. Hussein, tied up in a prolonged honeymoon, was not, however, to be outsmarted. He appeared to address his people and to promise them: "Our Armed Forces, which fortify us with determination to stay put and hold out in firm purpose and sacrifice, belong to the Army of Arabism for the defence of our nation's existence and for the recovery of our right in our dear Palestine in full".

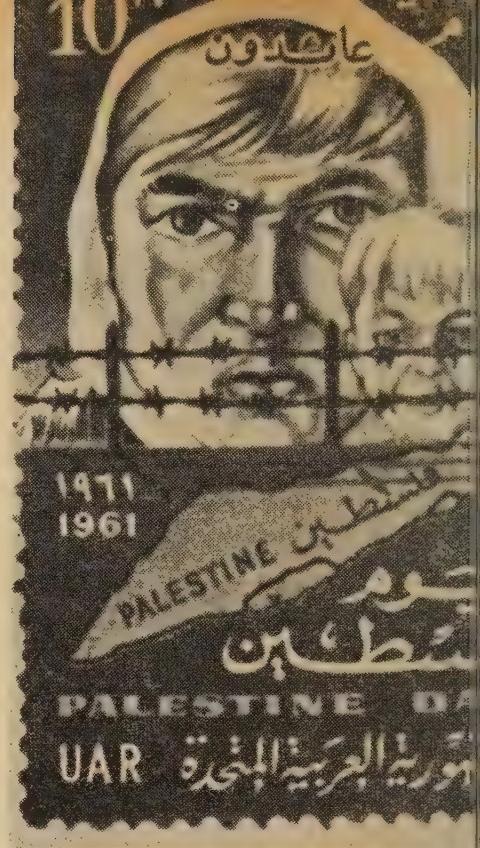
It was to combat just this sort of "go it alone" attitude that the Arab League's Expert Commission on Palestine had been meeting in Cairo. Their recommendations for a final solution of the Israel problem, reached after lengthy debate and argument, were due for submission to the Arab League Defence Council, composed of defence and foreign ministers, which had been summoned to Cairo for a meeting to start on Friday.

**Going warily :** Abdel Khalek Hassouna, the League's secretary general, a very harassed man these days, was also hoping to use this gathering of Arab cabinet ministers to push forward discussion of amendments to the League Charter.

The most important amendment proposed so far would make majority decisions within the League binding on all member states. Until now, a unanimous vote has been necessary for implementation of decisions. The adoption of such an amendment would make it easier for the activists to achieve united action against Israel than has been previously possible.

But, and this is the consideration that troubles the minds of some in Jordan and Iraq specifically, it would also make united action against another Arab state easier to secure. That is why the amendment will probably be put back on the pending shelf.

**Appearance and Reality :** In the meantime, however, its discussion will have exacerbated inter-Arab relations once again. Despite the many recent indications of closer unity within the Arab ranks, it is impossible to conceive of a situation in which Jordan would commit its army to the command of an Egyptian, or of the U.A.R. hurling itself into battle in defence of Hussein's throne. The appearance is there of unanimity. The reality is still quite different.



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## KASSEM FIGHTS PAPER WAR

### PURGE OF "SUBVERSIVE" LITERATURE

from our own correspondent

#### Baghdad :

Prime Minister Kassem is off on a fresh tack in his desperate fight to maintain his regime. Armed with a new philosophy based on the principle that you can defeat your enemies by suppressing the circulation of their ideas, he has set about a purge of all those concerned in the selling and distribution of newspapers, books and pamphlets.

But the task is a colossal one and so various are the sources of supply that to dam one hole is to invite a greater pressure of material through another. Most of what he considers subversive literature is coming into the country through the Lebanon and, in the first place, through the Lebanese Embassy which, to judge from the flow, must be stacked to the roof with printed matter.

Many of its lesser officials are dedicated Nasserists and have been trafficking in anti-Kassem literature for a long time. Their sources of supply are three Lebanese centres that specialise in the distribution of this kind of publication, whatever its source, in return for handsome pay-

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ment. Material also comes in from the Lebanon through the Saudi Arabian, Iraqi and several non-Arab embassies in Beirut.

**Choice of ideas :** Other sources include Syria, by indirect routes overland; from Persia over frontiers; through Kurdistan at several points; from the countries of the eastern bloc and India through their respective embassies here in Baghdad; and through a variety of official delegations which have diplomatic immunity.

The choice of ideas is sufficient to meet every taste. The Baathists send in their stuff through Lebanon, Egypt and Syria. The communists have the additional routes of Kurdistan and Persia, but a lot also comes by way of Warsaw, Prague and Vienna, in addition to that brought in through the embassies.

There is also a large amount of American literature available, but no one seems to value it very highly and it is not in demand.

**Basra the hub :** Once it is in the country, the material passes into a highly complicated but well organised distribution system. You can get almost anything you want provided you know where to go and how to approach the distributor. In the provinces, there are distribution centres in Sulimania, with the emphasis on Russian-produced communist literature in Arabic, with Kurdish running a close second, and in Mosul where the influence is predominantly Baathist.

Both Najaf and Kerbala are centres for communist propaganda and, until quite recently, communist publications in English, Arabic and Persian could be purchased quite openly at leading bookshops. But now they have all gone underground. Kirkuk provides a mixed bag of Baathist and communist literature.

Even in such places as Hillah, Diwaniya, Naseriya, Kut and Amara there are communist distribution points, but the hub of the organisation seems to be in Basra where the nervous activity of the students, teachers and other officials is quite noticeable.

**Samir pays the penalty :** From even elementary observation, it is quite clear that the Russians are alive to Kassem's manoeuvres and are doing their best to frustrate him. There is an element of genuine anger in the communist complaint that Kassem came to power with the assistance of their organisation and the direct moral support of Russia and China, who were among the first to recognise him, and that now he is giving them the brush off.

There is, of course, a lot of truth in what the communists say on this topic. The old regime was broken up with the



AL-ABDI

*In command of the battle of ideas*

active help of the National Front, in which the communists played the leading part. And it will be through the National Front that any further change will be wrought. Hence, Kassem's offensive against the propagation of ideas favourable to it.

Guidance Minister Faisal al-Samir has already paid the penalty of disfavour for failing to halt the inward flow of anti-Kassem literature. The task has now been given to two soldiers, Yahya and Ismail al Arif, working under direct orders from Kassem and military governor, Colonel al Abdi.

## AFRICA

### MONROVIA AFTERMATH

#### TIDE TURNS AGAINST EXTREMIST NATIONALISM

from Philippe Decraene

African diplomacy proceeds slowly, step by step. The inter-African Conference just held at Monrovia, Liberia, has brought new proof of this. This meeting of leaders of reformist Africa seems to be an important beginning rather than an end-process, despite the important decisions made there.

Following the meetings at Abidjan, Nouakchott, Brazzaville, Dakar and Yaoundé, the "conference of wisdom"—as it has been called in some editorials—is in fact a development of the conferences of French-speaking African heads of State. The general political orientation remains the same in the difficult search for unity of action.

The new awareness shown last September at the General Assembly of the UN—particularly on the occasion of the vote on Algeria—is beginning to produce results. The African countries want to evolve a policy of their own, taking into account all their possibilities, their own particular desires, and also the aid received from more developed countries. The creation in Yaoundé last March of the African and Malgache Union is a perfect illustration of current evolution:

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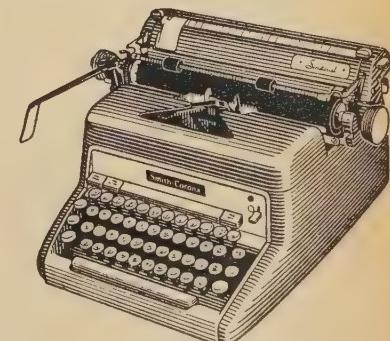
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the attempt to secure inter-African co-ordination in the realms of political, diplomatic, economic and cultural action, while at the same time leaving the initiative to each African State.

**Good omen:** Twenty States were represented in the Liberian capital, thirteen of them by their own heads of State, including notably five of the seven host powers: the Cameroons, the Ivory Coast, Togo, Liberia and Nigeria.

Of the fifteen other States represented, ten were French-speaking countries: the Central-African Republic, the Congo-Brazzaville, Dahomey, Gabon, Haute-Volta, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Madagascar, Niger, Senegal and the Chad. Beside them sat Ethiopia, Libya, Sierra Leone, the Republic of Somalia and Tunisia.

Among those taking part, there were three whose presence is worth considerable attention, since it is a good omen for the future of Africa: Togo, Sierra Leone and Nigeria.

**Attraction of moderation:** The participation of Togo is rather surprising. For Sylvanus Olympio, Prime Minister of Togo, had for months been pretending to play an astute and perilous game of swinging between Reformist Africa, in the Yaoundé bloc, and revolutionary Africa, in the Casablanca bloc, without choosing either. The fact that Olympio has stopped this pretence is explained by certain internal difficulties.

The reawakening of old tribal rivalries



MALI'S PRESIDENT KEITA  
*A weariness in Bamako*

between the north and south of the country has something to do with this change as well, as shown by the recent flight of the Paramount Chief of the Cotocolis.

Sierra Leone's choice proceeds from similar worries. Prime Minister Sir Milton Margai fears Sekou Touré, President of Guinea, as much as Olympio fears Nkrumah. The proximity of turbulent Guinea worries the leaders of Freetown who know how dynamic the Conakry propaganda services are. A convinced but not uncompromising nationalist, Sir Milton is inclined to conciliation. The moderation of the African States belonging to the Brazzaville bloc must therefore attract him.

**Guinea's condemnation:** The same remark applies to Nigeria, whose Federal Prime Minister, Sir Abubakar Tafewa Balewa, is nearer, in his political ideas, to Messrs. Senghor, President of Senegal, or Houphouet-Boigny, President of the Ivory Coast, than to any other English-speaking African head of State. If Sir Abubakar brings to the group he has just assembled the weight of the forty million people of his country, which is one of the wealthiest and most developed in West Africa, he also throws onto the scales a determined hostility towards Ghana, which he refuses to grant any leading role in West Africa.

The Nigerian attitude, however, is not enough to explain the absence of Ghana. Guinea, Mali, the United Arab Republic and Morocco had adopted a similar attitude, refusing to go to Monrovia. Furthermore, from April 30 to May 5, a Foreign Ministers conference of the five countries who had signed the Casablanca Charter was held in Cairo.

After having vainly tried to have the Monrovia meeting postponed once again, Guinea justified its refusal by publishing, on May 7, a communiqué asserting that: "The conference, despite the most divergent positions which have come to light, is only fostering a confusion which sacrifices authenticity to number, and sacrifices organisation of the fight against imperialism to compromises clearly contradicting the higher interest of the peoples of Africa."

**Initiative from Cairo:** It is very probably Cairo which chiefly opposed any participation by the Casablanca bloc states in the Monrovia conference, taking its partners with it. President Nasser and his team do not want to give up what they consider to be Egypt's civilising mission in Black Africa. The Pan-African conferences in Accra have given them several chances to tackle Ghana.

During various Afro-Asian conferences—extensions of Bandung—they have disputed the leadership of sub-Saharan Africa with the Negro States themselves. For a few months, not satisfied with harbouring in Cairo the offices of certain ultra-nationalist African movements, they have been calling inter-African meetings like the one last month devoted to organising African broadcasting stations.

The Moroccans were only too happy to boycott a meeting in which Tunisia occupied a prominent place. Furthermore, with the Mauritanian dispute still poisoning relations between Rabat and most other African capitals, Hassan II's attitude is perfectly clear.

**Reasonable resolutions:** Mali could obviously not go on its own, despite a certain weariness felt in Bamako towards the exaggerations of Nkrumah and some of his collaborators. Modibo Keita, President of Mali, rallied to his partners out of respect for the unity of action prescribed in Casablanca, but without much enthusiasm.

As for Ghana, the pilot-State of pan-Africanism, it fully intends to monopolise the main inter-African meetings, at least in West Africa. Furthermore, the President of Ghana strongly dislikes President Tubman of Liberia and Sir Abubakar Tafewa Balewa, Federal Prime Minister of Nigeria. The Monrovia conference was therefore not likely to attract him.

The unanimous moderation shown at Monrovia contrasts strongly with the frenzied character of some pan-African meetings. The resolutions voted at the end of the conference are—taking into account the political context of 1961 Africa—perfectly reasonable.

The next "African Summit Conference" is to be held in Lagos, probably in September, and will set up a permanent

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ent organisation for pan-African consultation, whose job it will be to carry out the resolutions adopted in Monrovia. Despite the recent warning given to Ghana by the delegates concerning its ambitions in Togo, to Mali and Morocco for their designs on Mauritania, to Guinea for its expansionist aspiration towards Sierra Leone, the Casablanca powers will probably go to Lagos.

**Mali hesitates:** There are at this moment numerous factors making for general relaxation in Africa. And since the states represented at Monrovia have taken care not to afford the absentees' susceptibilities, every hope is permitted.

Guinea is anxious to renew the ties which united her, until September 1958, with the states of the former West African Federation. Too many common memories, particularly the antagonism within the R.D.A., Houphoeut-Boigny's party, tend to draw her towards countries from which mere tactical considerations had estranged her.

Mali, after having too hastily considered the Guinean precedent, is today carrying out its own experiment on similar lines. Keita, anxious to obtain total independence for his State, feels he has given up the reality of France's financial help for spectacular promises from the Eastern-bloc countries. His present decision is far from final.

**Awolowo's warning:** Morocco has considerably reduced its ambitions concerning Mauritania since Hassan II's accession to the throne. Both the Senegalese and the Tunisians are trying to get Rabat to admit that Morocco has no claims to annex Mauritanian territory, but may hope to preserve a privileged link with the Nouakchott Government. The Moroccan leaders, conscious of the fact that their annexionist position harms their reputation in African eyes, are worried about the skill with which Masmoudi, the Tunisian State Secretary for Information, is spreading his country's influence in Black Africa. They will not much longer support Ghana's extremist views.

As for the United Arab Republic, the African capitals have for months contested its right to speak in the name of Black Africa. As early as September 1959, Chief Obafemi Awolowo, the Nigerian leader respected for his moderation, had this to say on that subject. "Because of its totalitarianism and its territorial ambitions, an effective collaboration with the United Arab Republic would only be possible if the Negro peoples of Africa were disposed to become satellites."

Should these probabilities be confirmed in Lagos, then Monrovia would really have been "the conference of wisdom."

# ISRAEL

## MAPAI OFFENSIVE CHANGES COURSE

### LIBERAL LEADERS DEFINE "ALTERNATIVE"

from our own correspondent

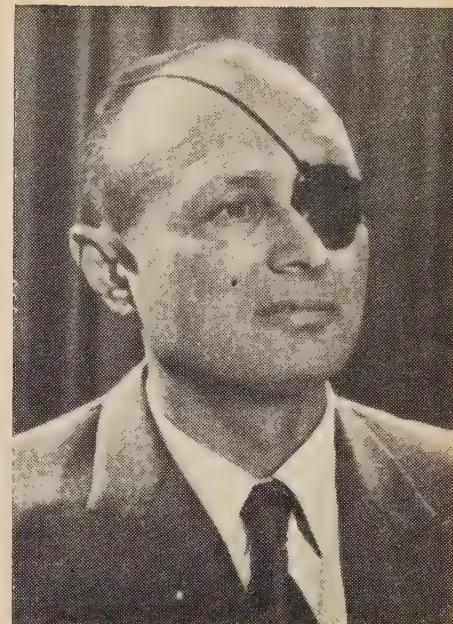
#### Jerusalem:

Mapai has decided to take the advice of the experts and to go easy on the Liberals from now on. Henceforward, the central effort of its election campaign will be directed against the left-wing socialists.

This was decided upon by party election headquarters after public relations experts within Mapai explained that to direct the campaign almost exclusively against the Liberals, repeatedly referring to their views on this or that topic of discussion, would create a public image of them as a possible alternative to Mapai.

The Liberals themselves have been concerned to counter rumours that their main intent is to establish a coalition with Mapai. Joseph Sapir, formerly Chairman of the General Zionist Party and now leader of the Liberal Party, said on Monday that "alternative" meant the ability to establish a Cabinet without Mapai. If possible, this is what the Liberal Party would do.

**The "other road":** However, if the Liberals failed to obtain a working majority, he did not rule out a coalition



DAYAN

New trend in the campaign

with Mapai in principle. But, he added, no party should have a majority in the Cabinet unless it also had a majority in the Knesset.

Justice Minister Pinhas Rosen stated that the Liberals should acquire sufficient strength to ensure that no coalition could be established without its support. He did not appear to like the idea of a coalition without Mapai as much as did Sapir, but he, too, defined the word alternative as meaning, first and foremost, an alternative to Mapai—not an alternative to the other parties now in coalition with Mapai.

Sapir thought the Liberals could provide the "other road" envisaged in the

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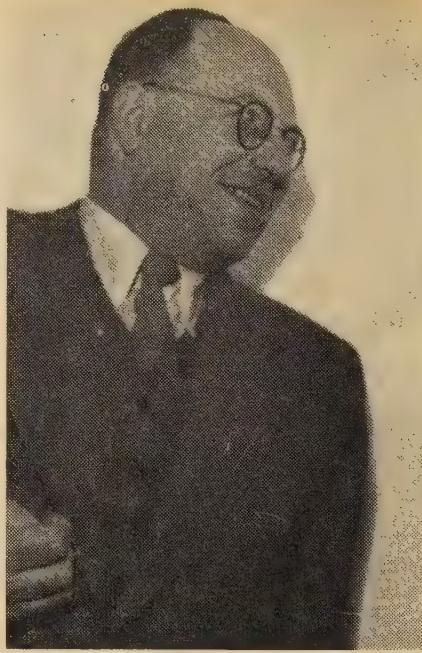
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establishment of a centre party. The rest of Israel's political parties had class or other interests and, until the formation of the Liberals, the only party with general appeal was Mapai. Both Sapir and Rosen were agreed that the basic question of a coalition had to await the outcome of the elections.

**"Double bookkeeping" charge:** Mapai's decision to slow down in their anti-Liberal offensive stems not only from realisation that they may be giving the new party the boost it needs, but also from a re-estimation of the threat from the left. In the opinion of leading party strategists, it is the left-wing parties and not the Liberals or Herut which will attract those who were disillusioned by some aspects of the Lavon affair.

This change of emphasis was highlighted in a speech delivered by Moshe Dayan last weekend when he lashed out at Ahdut Avoda for its stand in the affair. Addressing a youthful gathering at Rehovot, Dayan observed bitingly that Ahdut Avoda's handling of the affair would, of course, have been different—they would have split the party, as they did first Mapai and then with Mapam, rather than allow democratic discussion and acceptance of a binding majority decision.

As to Mapam, Dayan declared that she was following a dangerous kind of "double bookkeeping," one for the State and the other for the Arabs. She had never objected to the Mekorot plan, drawn up in 1952, to flood the Bet Nekufa valley as part of the project to bring the waters of the Jordan to the Negev. She had never objected, that was, until the current election campaign was launched, when her spokesman accused



MIZRACHI'S BURG  
In defence of Ben-Gurion

the government of liking the land of the area too much for the good of the villagers living there.

**Arms sale row:** The weekend election meetings also brought two interpretations of Ben-Gurion's overseas tour. One came from Mordecai Oren of Mapam, who accused Ben-Gurion of arranging it for internal political reasons. The opposite view was taken by Dr. Joseph Burg, Minister of Social Welfare, at a Mizrachi meeting. Criticism of Ben-Gurion's trip was nothing but "provincialism," he stated. There were certain topics which should remain outside internal political

bickering, and Ben-Gurion's talks with world leaders should come in this category.

A prime example of the kind of discussion that Burg was trying to avoid came up over the weekend when Dr. Elimelech Rimalt, a Liberal leader, commented on the alleged sale of Israeli arms by West Germany to Portugal before confirmation or denial of this was available from any official source. This sale, said Rimalt, would bring "immeasurable damage" to Israel.

Ahdut Avoda's Moshe Carmel was also after what political capital could be made from this report. Shimon Peres had confirmed that there was no clause in the purchase agreement with West Germany restricting the re-sale of these arms, he said, therefore, Peres had "indirectly confirmed" the report.

**Bonn's denial:** The matter came before Sunday's Cabinet meeting when there was a lively discussion. The report that West Germany had sold 10,000 Israeli sten-guns to Portugal first appeared in the London newspaper the *Sunday Observer*. The opinion here is that it was fed to the *Observer* in Spain by Arab propaganda agents.

At the Cabinet meeting, Peres came under heavy fire from Mapam and Ahdut Avoda, with Bentov demanding his replacement because of his statement that there was no clause barring re-sale of arms by West Germany. This is perfectly true, but it has always been understood that the Germans would seek Israel's opinion before making any deal involving the sale of Israel-made arms. In fact, an official statement from Bonn denied the sale of Israel arms to Portugal.

Justice Minister Rosen described the handling of the affair in the Cabinet as "maladroit". He asked among other things why the Government had not immediately sought clarification from Germany of the *Observer* report and why the contents of the report seemed to take a week to reach official sources.

**Not for colonialists:** In reply, Acting Prime Minister Levi Eshkol quoted the German denial and revealed that several states with colonial possessions had in the past applied for Israeli arms but had been turned down. He did not mention Portugal by name, but from the context in which his reply was given it appears that Portugal was among the states to which arms were refused.

After its discussion, the Cabinet agreed to study how arms sold to another state could be prevented from being re-sold to a third country. It was agreed that Israel would not sell arms to any state fighting to maintain colonial rule.

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# PRESS

## IT DEPENDS WHAT YOU MEAN BY FREEDOM

### AFRO-ASIAN PUBLISHING PROBLEMS

from Amos Ben-Vered

#### Tel Aviv :

The second part of the tenth International Press Institute assembly in Tel-Aviv, while dealing occasionally with the general principles underlying the existence of a free press, brought out much more markedly the fact that the participants were not only newspapermen but also businessmen engaged in the manufacture and sale of newspapers—in other words, publishers.

The last day was, essentially, Africa day and, to a lesser extent, Asia day. The conditions described by participants in this debate made one wonder at times if they were engaged in the same profession as, say, Roy Thompson.

There was Michael Curtis, a former editor of the late lamented *News Chronicle* who now runs a chain of newspapers in East Africa, including two Swahili dailies, several weeklies and monthlies and one Sunday paper in English.

**White men suspect:** Curtis mentioned that white men running African papers are "infinitely suspect", especially in former colonies of their national governments, and also that the idea of a free press was essentially western and not natural to Africa.

But the main points of his talk were devoted to technique: the unique combination of photographic typesetting and linotype, the difficulty in using Indian and Pakistani linotype operators who did not know Swahili, newspaper distribution along jungle paths, obtaining newsprint on schedule, and so forth.

The initial capital for the papers was put up by the Aga Khan, he revealed, but in ten years' time all the foreign-held shares of the papers would be available to Africans.

**"No newspapers":** A more colourful impression was made by L. K. Jakande of Nigeria, who appeared at the conference in his national garb, topped by a scarlet fez-type headdress. Jakande is President of the Nigerian Guild of Newspaper Editors, and editor-in-chief of *The Service*, a profusely illustrated weekly.

By his count, the only press in West Africa worth speaking of is the indigenous African-owned one. Government-



MA'ARIV EDITOR DISSENTSCHIK  
Way up on Kerala

owned papers together with those which are foreign-owned are, in his view, equal to "no newspapers". Countries having "no newspapers" in this category included, according to Jakande, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Liberia and French-speaking Africa.

Nigeria, on the other hand, has 16 dailies and three weeklies published by private African owners. Circulation is low—the highest claimed by any West African newspaper is 200,000. The problem is not only one of distribution and lack of advertisements, but also a lack of technical know-how. This often leads to the purchase of unsuitable or faulty equipment, to rapid deterioration of the machines, to incorrect or inefficient use of available equipment and, of course, to delays and hitches.

**"Inactive":** The main problem was training, and Jakande asked anyone—even the suspect, governmental, UNESCO—to arrange for the training of technicians as well as to give advice on the handling of equipment.

A. G. P. Vittachi, the Asian representative of I.P.I., gave in his talk an example of what seemed to be the next stage in newspaper development: where the equipment worked reasonably well but the papers were what he defined as "inactive" and needed bringing to life.

In Kerala alone, he said, there were 42 dailies at the latest count. But one might find there news items such as "Section 4(e) of the customs ordinance of 1947 has been amended according to an order gazetted yesterday, and in subparagraph 2 the word 'rubber' should be deleted".

**Academic learning futile:** This might be very important news, he said. But instead of going out for the news, or even making it significant, news desks had in many instances become mere post boxes for bulletins and hand-outs.

Newspapers, he urged, should be made more readable and more attractive, which did not necessarily mean more sensational. For this, said the former Ceylonese publisher, one must have instruction tied in with practical work. Pure academic learning had proved futile.

There followed a discussion in which each of the participants spoke very briefly on some item of his national press; circulation difficulties, capital investment for newspapers, the advantages of Roman script as against Tamili in Malaya.

**How impartial?** An observer from UNESCO explained how his organisation could help the press, and told of two regional meetings—one in Bangkok and one in Santiago. One of the most important aims set by UNESCO was the establishment of national news agencies, he said. This drew a sharp reply from Mokhtar Lubis, the Indonesian editor who had, until recently, been under house arrest.

Local agencies would certainly be government-influenced, he said. And anyway, UNESCO, being an agency of the U.N. which was an organisation of government, could not be impartial when

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dealing with the press. At the Bangkok conference, for example, all five Indonesian representatives worked on government-supporting papers, while none of the opposition editors was invited.

The UNESCO representative conceded that his organisation had to work through governments and that the latter had the right to veto candidates for participation in the seminars.

**Germans least of all:** Lee Bruce of Hong Kong produced some copies of a daily printed in colour (with a photograph of Ben-Gurion) and said that within the first six months of its appearance the paper had reached a circulation of 36,500 copies which was all the one printing press could handle. They had now ordered a second one.

Hans Kluthe of Germany warned Europeans not to appear as "teachers of mankind". The Germans especially could not assume this role in view of their record. They should let the Africans fend for themselves in this respect, and contribute only know-how.

Robert Makange of Dar es-Salaam made an interesting analysis of the African press. Many papers, he said were being run by frustrated politicians who used the papers for a campaign of hate against the government. As long as there were few genuine professional newsmen, there is no way of avoiding this, and of course the governments meanwhile became badly prejudiced toward newspapers in general.

**Pilot survey:** There was a surprise appearance by the elusive George Ivan Smith, U.N. information chief. In his speech he did not say anything directly concerning the press. Rather, he spoke of the world's economic condition; expounding the doctrine of co-ordinated loans through the World Bank and the International Development Association. He sketched education difficulties and stressed the advantages of local training as against scholarships.

The last part of the sessions, before delegates started a four-day tour of Israel, was marked by the election of Jakande to the Executive (he was nominated and seconded by Israelis) and the decision to initiate a pilot survey of Africa's needs, with some funds made available by the Ford Foundation.

Some delegates tried to introduce a resolution calling for admission to I.P.I. of members who themselves subscribe to press freedom but are prevented by their governments from exercising it. There was much argument over the legality of such a move, until eventually the sponsors of the resolution withdrew it. Next year's meeting is to be held in Paris.

## BOOKS

### PATIENCE IN POLITICS

**POLITICS OF UPHEAVAL** by Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. (Volume III of the Age of Roosevelt); 749 pp., index; (Heinemann) 63s.

There is still time before the August election for aspiring Israeli politicians to read this book. It must surely rank among the basic essentials for an understanding of Ben-Gurion's difficulties, for here the student will find that all the, supposedly, peculiarly Israeli problems springing from the special character of Ben-Gurionite Government, are not so peculiar after all. Others also had to face the same problems, only on a much greater scale, but basically there was not so much difference.

The value of this story lies in its detail. After two thousand pages we have only reached 1936; but we have also learnt much that would be irretrievably lost without the detail and pen-portraits of men like Brandeis and Frankfurter during these two critical years of Roosevelt's administration. For these were the years of liberal disillusionment with Roosevelt, and Schlesinger mercilessly recalls the forecasts of disaster by the liberal spokesmen.

He quotes Roosevelt as saying that it was "the liberals who are always the first to be discouraged," and he explains Roosevelt's belief in patience and correct timing. Roosevelt would not be rushed into action until he was ready for it; he was not discouraged when the public seemed to grow impatient and disillusioned. These, he argued, were passing phases to which every leader would have to get accustomed. He had to lead the country from the early enthusiasm for the first New Deal to the different concepts of the second New Deal. New names and different names now begin to appear more frequently in these pages. It was one of the striking features of the early Roosevelt administration that there were virtually no Jewish names in the administration or among the so-called brains' trusts. But here, in the second New Deal, some of the best-known Jews in American political life (most of them are lawyers) are playing an important role.

Brandeis at 89 stands out as a giant, far more impressive in many ways than he was as a Zionist leader. Then there is the contrasting personality of Felix Frankfurter, exercising his enormous and

all-pervasive influence on Roosevelt's behalf. There are many other names and sketches, such as that of Benjamin Cohen, in this unfolding clash between the protagonists of the New Freedom and the New Nationalism. It is a clash which now, 25 years later, seems to be as unresolved as it was then; only this time the clash is being fought out against a different background in one of the smallest countries of the world.

There has been some murmuring at the sweep of Schlesinger's history of the Roosevelt era. I hope he will take no notice of it, for this is the story of perhaps the most accomplished democratic politician in the modern age. And his secret was in the detail and the psychology of his approach. This cannot be summarised without destroying it.

J.K.

### TWO ADVENTURE STORIES

**TRAVELED ROADS**, by M. A. Schalit; 365 pp., illustrations; (Abelard-Schuman) 18s.6d.

**THE STONE OF PEACE**, by Karah Feder-Tal, translated from the Dutch by H. R. Kousbroek; 187 pp., map, illustrations, glossary; (Abelard-Schuman) 12s.6d.

Both these books are tales of adventure, but their similarity ends there. Dr. Schalit's adventures were real-life affairs, and though not hair-raising, they were varied and out of the usual run. The Schalit family had been brought by Dr. Schalit's father to Rishon-le-Zion in the

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eighties of the last century. Leaving Russia behind them, with its pogroms and its backwardness, they had settled at Rishon when the doctor was still a boy. Palestine was under the rule of the Ottoman Turks in those days, and Arabs were also far more ubiquitous then than now.

Interspersed with stories of life at home with his parents and many brothers and sisters are well-rounded descriptions of friends, relatives and acquaintances, places, Jewish customs, popular beliefs and events big and small. When Dr. Schalit contracted the eye disease which was to be the cause, indirectly, of his taking up medicine, he had to undergo a severe operation under local anaesthetic only, an ordeal he modestly describes without any heroics whatever. The long convalescence he was ordered to take in Geneva gave him time to enrol for a course of medical studies, and when he returned to Palestine it was as a fully fledged doctor. However, Palestine in those days, fifty or sixty years ago or more, was too poor to support many doctors, and despite the fact that Dr. Schalit built up quite a good practice in Nablus, some of his patients could not pay, while others regarded his services as their due, and would not pay. In 1901, a Zionist still, but one who had to earn a living, Dr. Schalit left for Australia, where he still lives. His book ends there—which is a pity, for the eighty-year old doctor must have many fascinating stories to tell of his new homeland under the Southern Cross.

*The Stone of Peace*, delightfully illustrated by Alie Evers in pen and ink, is the story of a young Moroccan boy who comes to terms with life in a kibbutz. The atmosphere is authentic, as might be expected, since the authoress was for a number of years herself a member of a kibbutz before returning to Holland and then settling in Israel again. David, the boy, is a sympathetic figure, and his adventures with Beduin, as well as his life with his sabra companions on the Negev kibbutz are lively and interesting. Grown-ups will, perhaps, see this as more of a book for young people than for themselves.

Sidney Lightman

## HOW MUCH LONGER?

*REFUGEE WORLD*, by Robert Kee; 153 pp., appendices, illustrations; (Oxford University Press) 15s.

As Robert Kee points out in this short book, the European refugee problem is only a small part of the world problem. Apart from the Arab refugees in the

Gaza strip, Jordan and elsewhere, there are the Tibetans, the Tunisians, the Moroccans, the Chinese, and many others all over the world. Despite World Refugee Year, despite the multiplicity of international, governmental and voluntary groups and individuals working towards a solution of the refugee problem, little more has been done than to scratch the surface.

Nobody can tell how long the refugees of the world will remain unsettled. What is certain is that the sum total of misery and squalor created by the existence of these refugees almost beggars description. Robert Kee made a tour of some of the refugee areas in Germany and Austria last year, in order to find out for himself what effect World Refugee Year had had on the matter. Starting out an optimist, he finished up by thinking that "time and death alone" would clear up the situation. He describes scenes and case histories, most of them unrelievedly depressing, and they support his case that more should be done for refugees. Kee also makes some practical humanitarian suggestions as to what form any additional action should take. The will to help, and devotion to duty by field workers are not enough. How much longer do we have to read books like this?

S.L.

## EMINENT VICTORIANS

NETTA, by Monk Gibbon; 255 pp., index, illustrations: (*Routledge and Kegan Paul*) 30s.

Motoring in Ireland, the beginnings of the Liberal synagogue, the ease of obtaining domestic servants in nineteenth century England, jokes, anecdotes, *bons mots*, embarrassing moments—all these and many more diverse subjects can be found in this very interesting biography of the Honourable Mrs. Franklin, Netta. Monk Gibbon strikes just the right note of empathy for his subject.

The Franklins have had a finger in so many pies, that a book like this is not merely the story of its main subject alone. It is also the story of an era and a whole class of people. Educated, wealthy, talented and liberal in outlook, the Montagus, the Samuels and the Franklins have made their mark in Jewish life in England and on the wider English scene. To meet them in the pages of this book is to be impressed and attracted by them. More than that, it is to like them, for, however, formal or earnest they might be, they always seemed to be likeable. Seen through the pages of this book, Netta Franklin is indeed, as Sir Richard Livingstone called her, "a remarkable

woman". Her biographer has done her justice.

S.R.I.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY, JUNE 12  
WANSTEAD & WOODFORD ZIONIST SOCIETY.  
Synagogue Board Room, Churchfields, E.18. Annual General Meeting. 8.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 14  
SELIG BRODETSKY ZIONIST SOCIETY (KENTON).  
Synagogue Hall, Shafesbury Avenue, Kenton, London. Welcome to Mr. and Mrs. D. Baker followed by Discussion on "Why Zionism Today?" led by Mr. Michael Jackson. 8.15 p.m.

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ALL WELCOME

## BROADCASTS FROM ISRAEL

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Fri. 9th June: 9.15 The News. 9.25 Report on the Eichmann Trial. 9.30 Sabbath Programme. 9.44 News Headlines.

Sat. 10th June: 9.15 The News. 9.25 Editorial Opinion. 9.35 Cantorial Music: Prayers for the New Moon. 9.44 News Headlines.

Sun. 11th June: 9.15 The News. 9.25 Heritage: Jewish Communities of the World—The Jews of Italy. 9.40 International Sports Quiz: Part III (repeat of programme of June 4th). 9.44 News Headlines.

Mon. 12th June: 9.15 The News. 9.25 Newsreel (including Report on the Eichmann Trial). 9.44 News Headlines.

Tues. 13th June: 9.15 The News. 9.25 Commentary. 9.30 Report on the Eichmann Trial. 9.40 News Headlines.

Wed. 14th June: 9.15 The News. 9.25 Report on the Eichmann Trial. 9.35 Student Songs of Israel. 9.44 News Headlines.

Thurs. 15th June: 9.15 The News. 9.25 Report on the Eichmann Trial. 9.35 Science in Israel: A Monthly Magazine Programme. 9.44 News Headlines.

# JPA-JNF NEWS

Prepared by JPA/JNF Public Relations Department, 4 St. George Street, Hanover Square, W.I. Hyde Park 2286/7

## ARAD - A NEW TOWN IN THE NEGEV

Now that the ground-breaking ceremony for the first homes in the Arad region of the Negev has taken place, attention is being focussed on the plan for developing this location as the centre of Israel's petrol-chemical industry. The township of Arad will be situated adjacent to Israel's natural gas source at Rosh Zohar, conducting fuel to the Dead Sea.

The Jewish National Fund has included the Arad region in its national development programme. For this is the largest of the 12 areas blueprinted by the Fund for early settlement. Of its 107,000 acres, 80,000 are being devoted to agriculture and the remainder to afforestation.

Situated between Beersheba and the Dead Sea, this region's development is part of a larger plan for the settlement of the entire northern Negev first devised in 1959 and elaborated at length by Joseph Weitz when he addressed the world conference of the Jewish National Fund at the end of last year.

Work has already begun on the opening of a road through massive rock linking the Beersheba-Sdom road to Arad. This new road, involving the use of explosives and heavy equipment and following an ancient track through the desert of Judea, will connect Beersheba via Arad with the Dead Sea shore, to shorten the

distance between Beersheba and Ein Gedi by 60 km.

The Fund has begun to experiment with a small-scale agave (sisal) plantation, already established as a thriving field crop in the northern Negev, and requiring almost no irrigation. Thick grass growing in early spring evidences the fertility of the soil, and it is believed that large tracts could serve as excellent grazing ground for breeding cattle on a far larger scale than ever anticipated in Israel.

The main industries planned at Arad involve the processing of Dead Sea raw materials, but there would also be secondary and auxiliary undertakings.

Altogether a five-year plan is entailed. The first stage provides for 600 settlers, to be speedily increased as 2,000 km. of roads linking Arad with Beersheba, the Dead Sea and the surrounding settlements, are laid down.

The presence in quantity of red, black-veined marble holds out promise of important quarrying employment, and may well offer prospects of a significant industry which could turn out to be a valuable export item. The comparative nearness of Eilat would facilitate export to the Far East where marble is scarce and very much sought after.

It is planned to bring the first settlers to Arad not later than 1963.



Vista of the Negev. The map references come to life.

## MORE CAMPAIGN NEWS

A drawing-room meeting which took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. I. Frankfurt in South-west London had Zionist Federation chairman Jacob Halevy as the guest speaker, with an appeal by S. W. Gold. The gathering subscribed a sum of £800 towards the current campaign. K. Broer presided, while there was a vote of thanks by Dr. M. I. Cornick.

A follow-up meeting, organised by the Woolwich committee at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Cluer, heard an account of present-day immigration trends from Ralph Rurka. An additional £100 was subscribed, and this group is continuing its canvassing. Others who took part at the meeting were chairman D. Goodman, I. Ragol-Levy and M. Frosh.

## THE LATE JOHN GOLDSTONE

Jacob Biron writes: The Leeds Jewish community has sustained a hard blow with the untimely death of John Goldstone, one of its central figures.

He was born in Leeds in 1902 and remained devoted to the Zionist cause all his life. From 1937-47 he was the honorary secretary of the Leeds Commission of the J.N.F., rising to chairman and then to president in 1959. He was also active in the well-known Leeds Blue and White bazaars.

Mr. Goldstone occupied a significant role in the overall Zionist activities of the city, in addition to the United Hebrew Congregation and the Max Goldstone Lodge of the Grand Order Sons of Jacob.

Outside the sphere of Jewish communal work he was a prominent member of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association for many years and was elected chairman in 1960.

## BRIDGE FINALISTS

The list of finalists to play in the J.N.F. National Bridge Tournament at the Berners Hotel on Sunday, June 18, has just been completed. It includes these entrants not hitherto notified: Ilford, Dr. J. Harris and M. Binns; Wembley, M. J. Sullen and H. Webber; Finchley, S. Silverman and J. Sacks; Kenwood, B. Green and V. Silverman.

Mrs. R. Nunes, Mrs. F. Wald, Mrs. B. Moses and Mrs. C. Ezra will be joining the lady finalists at Crockford's Club on June 12.

# J P A - J N F      N E W S

- Some experiences of a Younger Commission member on the Youth Week canvass.

## "I'VE GOT A TREE, THANK YOU!"

By Wendy Don

"I have trees, my wife has trees, my boy has trees. How many more do I need? Do I have to own all the forests in Israel?"

We smiled weakly and retreated. It was the end of a long week. Youth Week comes but once a year, but if it came any more frequently, we of the Younger J.N.F. Commissions would have nervous breakdowns.

Equipped with tree vouchers, identification badges and enthusiasm, we started our campaign, following the J.N.F. Box list diligently and even knocking tentatively on the other mezuza-branded houses.

We had studied our project and prepared our Barmitzvah year sales talk. Alas, our optimism proved excessive. Reactions were so unexpected that they would have propelled me immediately to the front gate had it not been for my persistent partner, suffering from a severe attack of "target disease."

Most common reaction: "But we have trees!" We explain that these particular trees are for the Highway of Youth, a road to the top of Mount Meron, the highest point in Israel. We paint a picture of infiltrators creeping over the border by dead of night and marching on to Tel Aviv. "If forests are planted along this road," we continue, "the land will soon be fit for cultivation and Jewish farmers will be settled on it. This will give work to the new immigrants." We even slip in a quotation from the Bible.

This should have rendered our prospective clients speechless. On the contrary, it seemed to inspire either sarcasm, amusement or wrath. And we learned a lot about human nature.

The women firmly refuse, or buy with a minimum of fuss. Only in rare cases were they evasive. One housewife declared that if she bought a tree, she would have no change for the children's lunches for the rest of the week. Another regretted that it was her maid's night out and the maid was the only one in the house who had any money!

With the men it was either "The wife's out," or "I'll ask the wife." One timid

householder listened sympathetically and then retreated to some inner sanctum. A door banged and a large woman appeared, bristling with ill-humour. Darkly, she informed us that she would not contribute to any Jewish appeal, since the last callers had told her that her donation was inadequate. "It's disgusting," . . . etc. I haughtily retreated.

Receipts were somehow slowly . . . accumulating and we grew hopeful of achieving our target. We resumed the attack. Then a young woman responded to our knock. I nudged my partner. We had an arrangement whereby he did the talking if it was a woman. This time, his charm did not work. She gazed blankly at him. "No dear, we don't want no trees, we're moving soon." Up the next garden path, and here the door-knocker came away in my hand. We ran.

Of course, there is the benevolent "I give to the Synagogue, I buy trees from the children, I have a Blue Box." We beam at these 'sure to go to Heaven' types but their generosity always just stops short of buying trees from us.

Conspicuous in every tree drive is the contributor who wants to be sure of going down in posterity. "I'll buy one, miss" said one lady. "Will my name be on it?" "Of course," I replied. "There'll be a noticeboard with an arrow: Mrs. Cohen's tree."

Is it all worthwhile? The rebuffs, the rain, the protruding rose-bushes, the slippery doorsteps, the disinterest? But we remember the smiles, the friendly words of encouragement, and the end-product. We'll be canvassing again next year.

## SWITZERLAND TRIUMPHS IN BIBLE QUIZ

The Bible, the Jewish calendar and Israel were the subject of questions at the J.N.F. Bible Quiz Finals last week, ending with a victory for two young girls representing Switzerland.

The event had Dr. I. Levy as chairman and the competitors, all under 14, were from Eire, France, Great Britain and Holland in addition to the winning country. France was runner-up, with Great Britain in fourth place. Among the guests were Israel Embassy Minister Arieh Miron and Mme. Miron.

The standard of questions proved exceedingly high and competition was fierce. The winners, Lear Jeselsohn and Miriam Schwarz, were presented with their trophy by Mme. Miron and all competitors received inscribed copies of the Israel Bible.

Arieh Miron, in a brief address, declared that the Bible was not a book to be placed on a shelf and forgotten but to be studied and observed. He was concerned with the language difficulties that had caused some complication during the afternoon and hoped that the day would not be far away when the entire function would be conducted in Hebrew.

Miss Beatrice Barwell extended warm sentiments of appreciation to participants and supporters and to all those in the organisation of the function.

During the afternoon, entertainment was provided by singer Michael Tuck and the Israeli accordionist Israel Pirnik.



Dr. I. H. Levy, O.B.E., J.N.F. education department chairman, puts a question at the International Bible Quiz for children.

# J P A - J N F    N E W S



## TREE INSCRIPTIONS

A garden of one hundred trees in memory of their wife and mother, Mrs. Alice P. Abrahamsohn; 40 trees in the names of Annie and Phil Marcuson on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding by Moledet Women's Zionist Society; 25 trees in the names of Mr. and Mrs. Nat Goldstone on the occasion of their Silver Wedding by Croydon and District Synagogue; 20 trees in the names of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Assenheim on the occasion of their marriage by Croydon and District Synagogue; 18 trees in the name of Gerald Gershon Strong on the occasion of his marriage to Sonia Biener by the Liverpool J.N.F. Functions Committee.

18 trees in the name of Rev. B. L. Segal, in honour of his 80th birthday, on the occasion of his opening their Bazaar by the Harrogate Women's Zionist Society; 15 trees in the names of Miss Adrienne Hershman and Mr. Ivan B. Benjamin on the occasion of their marriage by the Carmel Group; 15 trees in the name of Simeon Spellman on the occasion of his barmitzvah by his parents; 15 trees in memory of Yael Saffer by his wife Mabel; 13 trees in the names of Raie and Harry Green, Stuart and Carole; 13 trees in the name of David Alan Toubkin on the occasion of his barmitzvah by his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Basil Toubkin; 13 trees in the name of David Alan Toubkin on the occasion of his barmitzvah by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Beaver.

13 trees in the name of Steven Howard Fruhman on the occasion of his barmitzvah by the Prestwich Women's Zionist Society; 13 trees in the name of Jonathan Martin S. Roseman on the occasion of his barmitzvah by the Brighton and Hove WIZO Group; 13 trees in the name of Alexander Charles Steen on the occasion of his barmitzvah by the Central Group, Glasgow; 13 trees in the name of Pauline Crystal on the occasion of the barmitzvah of her son Peter Maurice, by the Blanche Dugdale Group; 13 trees in the name of Harold Sydney Cina on the occasion of his barmitzvah by the Vaad L'Maan, Habonim, Glasgow.

*Woolf Perry, deputy chairman of the Keren Hayesod, welcoming British visitors at a Bet Shalom reception in Jerusalem. Mr. Perry has expressed a wish to be kept personally in touch with J.P.A. officers when they come to study developments in Israel, and he is shown here with (left) Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Craps of the Textile Trade and Mrs. Phoebe Leon, British WIZO leader.*

## YOUR TICKETS FOR "BLAZING SAND"

Those still requiring tickets for "Blazing Sand" may contact J.N.F. Head Office today (Friday) at MUSeum 6111. On Sunday, the Prince of Wales Theatre will open the box office from 10 a.m. for the evening's performance. The telephone number is WHItehall 8681.

Seats available range from 3 gns. to 7/6d.

## THIS WEEK'S BEST BOXES

**N. LONDON:** Mr. Berkoff, 25 Firs Avenue, N.10, c/o Dereta's Model Room, Princes House, W.1, £16.16.6. Mr. A. Sher, 325 Green Lanes, N.4, £7.10.0. Mrs. A. Flansberg, 17 Clissold Court, Green Lanes, N.4, £2.16.0. Dr. Weeg, 260 Albert Road, N.22, £2.8.0. Mr. M. Lack, 73 Connaught Gardens, Muswell Hill, N.10, £2.3.0. Mr. List, 229 Alexandra Park Road, N.22, £2.2.6. Newton and Kaufman Ltd., 23 Stamford Hill, N.16, £2.2.0.

**E. LONDON:** Dr. Mark Godfrey, 19 East India Dock Road, E.14, £5.0.0. Mr. D. Elkan, 791 Commercial Road, E.14, £3.0.0. Mr. L. Mernick, 34 Campbell Road, E.3, £2.6.6. Mr. D. Michaels, 73 Bow Road, E.3, £2.1.0.

**W. LONDON:** Mr. J. Offenbach, 42/48 Gt. Portland Street, W.1, £8.5.4. Mr. O. Neufeld, 74 Berwick Street, W.1, £6.13.0. Mr. A. Isaac, 80 George Street, W.1, £4.13.6. Mrs. Victoria Newman, 9 Clarewood Court, Seymour Place, W.1, £4.0.6. Mrs. E. Hill, 6 Princess Court, Bryanston Place, W.1, £3.7.3. Mr. Raphael, 33 Bickenhill Mansions, W.1, £3.4.0. Mrs. Mendelson, 20 Nassau Street, W.1, £3.3.0. Mr. Lewis Tendler, 2nd Floor, 4 Margaret Street, W.1, £3.1.6. Mrs. Isaac Wolfson, 74 Portland Place, W.1, £3.0.0. Mr. and Mrs. J. Lottenberg, 43 Weymouth Street, W.1, £2.14.2. Mrs. Davis, Ig Portman Mansions, Chiltern Street, W.1, £2.12.6. Mrs. Edith Morrison's Sewing Guild, 200 Tottenham Court Road, W.1, £2.7.6. Mr. Schulman, c/o M. and S. Haar, 24/30 Gt. Titchfield Street, W.1, £2.6.0. Lasky's Radio, 42 Tottenham Court Road, W.1, £2.2.6. Messrs. D. Ritter and Horne, 212/214 Gt. Portland Street, W.1, £2.0.0. Mr. D. Morris, 45/46 Berner Street, W.1, £2.0.0. Gran and Co., 27 Eastcastle Street, W.1, £2.0.0.

**N.W. LONDON:** Mrs. D. Ellis, 46 Watford Way, Hendon Central, N.W.4, £5.4.1. Mr. and Mrs. H. Wright, 46 Armitage Road, N.W.11, £5.0.0. Mrs. M. H. Cohen, 6 Faber Gardens, N.W.4, £3.14.4. Mr. Zwart, 5 Manor Hall Avenue, N.W.4, £3.1.0. Mr. D. Baker, 25 Sherwood Road, N.W.4, £2.19.0. Hillel House Day School, 263 Chamberlayne Road, N.W.10, £2.17.11. Mr. I. Haber, 12 Glebe Crescent, Finchley Lane, N.W.4, £2.16.5. Dr. J. Sharp, 153 Walms Lane, N.W.2, £2.15.0. Mrs. Israel, 21 Armitage Road, N.W.11, £2.12.6. Mr. M. Fanchlager, 302 Watford Way, N.W.4, £2.9.10. Mr. Percy Oster, 27 Pembroke Hall, Mullberry Close, N.W.4, £2.5.6. Mr. A. Golden, 16 Dunstan Road, N.W.11, £2.2.0. Mr. and Mrs. B. Lyons, 62 Armitage Road, N.W.11, £2.1.0. Mrs. Bloom, 53 Dunstan Road, N.W.11, £2.0.0. Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Cohen, 43 The Vale, N.W.11, £2.0.0. Mrs. E. Fox, 3 Manor Hall Avenue, N.W.4, £2.0.0. Miss H. Hillman, 124 Walms Lane, N.W.2, £2.0.0. Mr. Fox, 3 Vaughan Avenue, N.W.4, £2.0.0. Mr. B. Djorda, 2 Manor Hall Avenue, N.W.4, £2.0.0.

**EDGWARE:** Mr. Kurasch, 131 Green Lane, £7.10.0. Mr. H. Hassan, 62 Cannons Drive, £5.19.10. Mr. Richmond, 3 Station Road, £4.1.0. Mr. Stein, 19 Hillersdon Avenue, £2.10.0. Mr. Solomon Kutchinsky, 16 Hillersdon Avenue, £2.2.6. Mr. H. Newman, 45 Mill Ridge, £2.0.0.

**ILFORD:** Mr. I. Perl, 52 Ridgeway Gardens, £3.0.0. Dr. Gold, 65 Ethelbert Gardens, £2.0.0. Mr. Abrahams, 1 Fernhill Drive, £2.0.0. Mr. G. Harris, 19 Fernhill Drive, £2.0.0.



*Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lewis of Stamford Hill during a stop-over in Israel while on their J.N.F. Blue and White round-the-world trip. They are shown looking up names of acquaintances in the Golden Book with K.K.L. officers Harry Sabel and Zvi Wineberg.*

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